09/100284

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A time division multiple access (TDMA) radio communication system (100) accommodates signal decoding by a mobile station (130) with and without a second synchronization word (214). The radio communication system includes at least one base station (102, 104) to transmit radio signals during a succession of time slots (202, 204, 206) including a current time slot (202) and a subsequent time slot (204). The radio signals include an indication of whether transmission of the subsequent time slot is guaranteed. The system further includes at least one mobile station to receive the radio signals in accordance with the indication.

10

5